STATE OF INDIANA

Request for Information 17-037

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

On Behalf of the
Indiana Department of Education

Solicitation For:
Indiana Assessment System

Response Due Date: September 30th, 2016 by 3:00pm EST

Stan Judson, Director of Strategic Sourcing
Indiana Department of Administration
Procurement Division
402 Washington St., Room W478
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Indiana Department of Education

Indiana Assessment System

This Request for Information (RFI) is issued solely for information and planning purposes only, and does not constitute a solicitation. Responses to the RFI will not be returned. Responses to this RFI are not an offer and cannot be accepted by the State to form a binding contract. The State of Indiana or the Indiana Department of Education is not liable for any cost incurred by the vendor in response to this RFI.

<u>PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION</u>

The purpose of this RFI is to gain knowledge regarding what assessment options may be possible for Indiana given the new assessment flexibility provided by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and the Indiana General Assembly through HB1395. The information provided in the responses to this RFI may also be used to assist in the development of a Request for Proposal (RFP) at a later date. There will not be a contract resulting directly from the RFI; however, the State may elect to limit participation to vendors that respond to the RFI, if and when the State releases a RFP.

The information gained from this RFI may be used in the development of a competitive solicitation process, leading to the selection of a contractor that is best suited to provide the solution(s) that meets the Indiana Department of Education requirements. The Indiana Department of Education is interested in learning about all types of solutions available in the marketplace for assessments. Respondents should provide full details about their solution in order for the Indiana Department of Education to gain a clear understanding of the complete solution being proposed.

The Indiana Department of Education may request in-person demonstrations from Respondents of this RFI for the purpose of collecting additional information and/or receiving clarification on proposal details. Invitations may be extended to Respondents of this RFI subsequent to the receipt of responses. The demonstrations, if necessary, will be conducted at the Indiana Government Center in Indianapolis, IN at a date to be determined after review of the proposal submissions.

<u>BACKGROUND/CURRENT OPERATIONS</u>

The Indiana Department of Education is seeking general information regarding assessment-related products and services that are available for consideration as part of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) assessment implementation to share with the statutorily-required Assessment Panel.

<u>SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS</u>

The Indiana Department of Education asks that all Respondents provide adequate details about their Indiana Assessment System for the following topics. In addition, an indication is needed as to whether the response is related to an assessment solution that is currently available for use or is presently under development.

- Alignment

  - How do the questions on your assessment align to college and career ready content expectations?

  - How do the questions on your assessment align specifically to Indiana's Academic Standards in the areas of reading, language arts, mathematics and science?

  - Have you conducted an alignment study? When was it complete and by whom was it conducted?

- Assessment Transition

  - Describe the process you would recommend for transition between our current assessment system and a new statewide test.

  - Describe the schedule you would recommend for the transition between the current Indiana assessment system and the system you propose.

- Assessment Development

  - How do you determine item types for your assessment?

  - Describe test design and items types that will measure learning to a depth and breadth of knowledge expected for college and career readiness.

  - Are you proposing to use items that have been previously used in other large-scale assessment programs, or custom-developed for use in Indiana?

- Assessment Type/Design

  - How does your assessment tool/system monitor student achievement throughout the school year to provide formative data?

  - How often do you propose that your assessment be administered within a school year?

  - Describe the data that results from your assessment. Please provide examples of the score reports.

  - How does your assessment measure student learning in a summative manner?

  - Is or could your assessment be administered at multiple points across the year to contribute to a summative score? If so, describe how.

  - How does your assessment measure a student's attainment of content standards at grade-level, as well as below grade-level, and above-grade level?

- o If your assessment is adaptive, how do you accommodate for students that require accommodations/paper form?

- o Please identify the exact nature of the online assessment you are proposing:

  - Is the form that students take a fixed form, that is, all students at a grade and content area take the same assessment?

  - Is your assessment computer adaptive? (Specifically, is the test each student takes based on the student's progressive performance on items presented to the student?)

  - Is your assessment stage-adaptive? (Do students begin with the same—or parallel—test items in the first stage, then one or more sub-tests are administered to the student based on performance on the first stage?)

- **Results**

  - o How does your assessment report on the specific skills that students have and have not achieved?

  - o Describe the type of data that result from your assessment at the student, parent, school, corporation, and state levels.

- **Growth**

  - o How does your assessment measure individual student growth within the school year? What type of growth metric is produced? How often can such a growth metric be calculated? What are examples of data points used to calculate growth?

  - o How does your assessment system measure individual student growth across school years?

  - o How is student growth reported at the individual student and school/corporation levels?

PRICING - [The IDOE is not seeking cost information at this time.]

KEY RFI DATES

Below is a chart that contains all of the deadlines associated with RFI 17-037:

ACTIVITY:	DATE:
Issue of RFI	September 7, 2016
Deadline to Submit Written Questions	September 13, 2016 by 3:00pm EST
Response to Written Questions	September 20, 2016
Submission of Proposals	September 30, 2016 by 3:00pm EST

PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS SUBMISSION

All questions in regards to RFI 17-037 must be submitted in writing via email (in the provided template – Attachment A) to IDOA at rfp@idoa.in.gov no later than **3pm EST on Tuesday, September 13, 2016.** The email subject line should contain the following phrase "17-037, Indiana Assessment Systems Q&A".

Following the question/inquiry due date, IDOA will compile a list of the questions/inquiries submitted by all respondents. The responses will be posted to the IDOA website. Only answers posted on the IDOA website will be considered official and valid by the State. No Respondent shall rely upon, take any action, or make any decision based upon any verbal communication with any State employees.

Please note that Stan Judson is the State's single point of contact for this RFI. Inquiries are not to be directed to any staff member of Indiana Department of Education. Such action may disqualify Respondent from further consideration for a contract resulting from the ensuing RFP.

All proposals must be submitted via email to IDOA at rfp@idoa.in.gov no later than 3pm EST on Friday, September 30, 2016. The email subject line should contain the following phrase "17-037, Indiana Assessment Systems RFI Submission". Proposals may be no more than 7 pages in length, not including required examples.

It is important to note that all information submitted in Respondents' proposals to this RFI (17-037) will be kept confidential and will not be made available to the public unless this RFI results in the release of an RFP at a later date. If an RFP results from this RFI, then the information contained in the proposal submissions for this RFI must be made available to the public once the resulting RFP has been awarded and the protest period has ended. However, any proprietary information can be kept confidential as long as it is marked clearly in your proposal submission as "CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL". It is the responsibility of the Respondent to ensure that all confidential information is easily identifiable to ensure it is not released as non-confidential material.